THE RAJAH'S HEIRLOOM.

BY FLORENCE MARRYAT, Author of "Her Lord and Master," Etc.

Copyright, 1896, by Bacheller, Johnson & Bacheller. I suppose nobody has forgotten the great Manchester swindle, when Jonas Mears and Theodore Allcock managed to abscond with twenty thousand pounds of their emplovers' and bolted clean across the Atlantic before we could get on the trail. It took me six weeks of my time and a regular chase and no mistake before I ran the two scoundrels to earth in Chicago, where they were giving themselves out as English lords. However, I succeeded in catching their lordships, and I didn't care how much trouble it had cost me. I had brought Messrs. Mears and Allcock back safe to their native country and delivered them over to the proper authorities, and I thought I had earned a few days' rest. We had had a wretched passage across, with head winds against us eight days out of the ten, and, my duty done, I thought with keen satisfaction of my little place at Fulham and my own comfortable feather bed and my wife waiting to welcome me home with a tasty little supper.

The reality was as good as the anticipation. It was a beastly autumn afternoon, with a driving rain and a cold southwest wind, but the cottage looked bright and cozy and warm, and Nancy was as red as a peony from pleasure at seeing me.

It was early when I reached home, not more than 5 o'clock, but I was a regular beat, and when I had had my dinner of tripe and onions I felt good for nothing but to go to bed and sleep. I was neither fit to talk nor think. I couldn't keep my eyes open, and my wife's chatter sounded yks a confused medley of sound. I couldn't even relish a pipe, but took a drop of Scotch hot and staggered up to my own

"Whatever you do, my dear." I said to Nancy, "don't disturb me till you hear I'm awake again, for I've got several rights' rest to make up. I'll lock my door, and don't come up till I unlock it—unless, indeed, 'tis something very particular, like a message from the chief, or such like."
"Lor", Jark!" exclaimed Nancy-whenever my wife uses the affectionate diminutive of my name she always pronounces it as if she were a jackdaw making known its desire for food—"Lor", Jark, he'd never be sending after you so soon as this, and you just off board ship! You go to sleep

and think no more of such foolishness."
"Nancy." I replied, "the business of the state must be attended to, at any cost. I den't expect anything of the sort, but if a wire should arrive I must have it without delay." out delay." out delay."
"Drat the state!" cried Nancy, "it don't pay you over and above so much that it has any call to rob you of your natural rest. Go to sleep, John Busby, do-or you will be fit for nothing tomerrow morning."

I find it difficult to convince my wife of the convences importance of my office and the enormous importance of my office, and the dignity of my employers. She is al-ways "dratting" the government and "blowing" the superintendent of police, in a manner which would cost me my ap-pointment if overheard, but she is a good wife to me and the manne well. I suppose wife to me and the means well. I suppose it is hard on a woman to have her husband called away at all manner of times and never to know when to expect him back again. But I had no inclination to argue

the matter then. I crawled upstairs to my bed room and was soon between the blankets, sunk in a profound slumber-so pro-found that I became utterly unconscious to all external things, and had not even the power to dream. It seemed as if I had been sleeping for hours, or days, when I was roused by the sound of an uncertain tapping on my bed room door, and an apologetic voice, calling in a loud whisper: "Jark!" As soon as I became sufficiently conscious to recognize the voice I was sure something of importance must have oc-curred and was on the elect in a moment, or we detectives learn to sleep with our

rying to open the door. My wife was half rying outside it, with a yellow envelope in "O, Jark!" she said "there's a nasty telegram come for you, and I wouldn't have let you see it for ever so, only I was afraid

"What is it, Nancy?" I exclaimed, hur-



u might be angry with me, but however they can have the 'eart to do it-"Here! give me the message at once," I said, and she handed it to me. I tore the envelope open-out fluttered the pink paper, on which was written: "Important robbery at The Gables, Manningford. Travel down by mail train."
"What time is it. Nancy?" I asked, as I

hurried on my clothes again.
"Just gone 10. But, O! Jark! you're never going to start off again when I haven't no more than seen your face!" said the poor woman, crying, "Well, it looks like it, Nan, but it isn't my

"Well, it looks like it, Nan, but it isn't my fault, as you well know. I'd be glad enough to spend a few quiet days with you, but business is business, my dear, and the state claims my first attention."

"O! dang the state!" exclaimed Nancy, angrily. "Why can't it keep more detective officers, I should like to know, instead of working them as it has, to skin and bone?"

"Yes,' yes,' hut never mind just now, but

"Yes! yes! but never mind just now; but get me out my other suit, Nancy, for the last day I was aboard the Atalanta she shipped a sea over this one, and it must go to the cleaner's. The Gables is a big place, I've

heard, and I must dress according."
"And how long will you be gone, Jark?" "That I can't say! It must be a serious robbery, or the chief wouldn't have ordered me to travel by the night mail. No time to be lost, I guess! Now get me a hansom; there's a good lass. I must call at the yard for my instructions before I catch the mail from Paddington."

My wife did as I requested her, weeping quietly the while. I kissed her, hastily jumped into the hansom, told the driver to go as if the old man were after him, and

started for Scotland Yard.

"I was sorry to have you up again so soon, Busby," said the inspector, "but there's no help for it! Just had information from Man-



sorry to have you on again . toon, Busby," he said.

pingford to send down the sharpest detec-

tive we have, and you know who that is, when you're at home!"

This compliment from our inspector, who is no flatterer as a rule, pleased me very much, and I felt the strength of a lion rise in me at his words. I fancy I got a bit red

"Thank you kindly, sir! I suppose the "Thank you kindly, sir! I suppose the business is of importance!"

"Every importance! Property to the amount of £30,000 missing, under circumstances which seem to point to—however, I shall leave you to find out that for yourself! You may be detained some days in The Gables; indeed, you are sure to be. Are you prepared for it?"

"I can write to Mrs. Bushy for what I

"I can write to Mrs. Busby for what I may require, sir," I replied. "May I ask on whose information we are acting?"

"Oh, yes! No secrecy about the matter! The person who has written for your attendance is Sir Charles Ellesmere, the master of the house. His father died only last week—was buried yesterday—the jewels found missing after the reading of the will. He says they are of fabulous value, and a family beirloom "All the better," I said. "They will be

the more easily traced. They won't give me so much trouble as Messrs, Mears and Me so much trouble as Messis, means and Allcock's gold and silver did. Stones can't be melted down into lumps of ore."

"Ah! Busby," the inspector was good enough to say, for the second time, "that

was a sharp piece of work and it won't be forgotten! You'll reach Manningford about 5 o'clock, so you had better put up at a hotel till you've had your breakfast, then off to The Gables, as soon as may be!" "Very good, sir! I'll start at once, and

wire you all particulars as soon as I've heard them. And if I require assistance, I'll have Crewe, if you're willing. He has the coolest head, I know!"

"After your own, Busby!" said the inspector, laughing, and I thanked him again, and started on my journey. It was November, and the nights were bitterly cold. I

wrapped myself up well in my rug, and leaning back in a corner of the railway carriage, tried to resume my broken slum-bers, but it was useless. I had been too thoroughly roused. When I arrived at the Manningford Hotel, I sat in one corner of the office room till it was light enough to



In Another Minute the Door Reopened have my breakfast. By that time several customers, chiefly travelers, were down also, and two or three outsiders had strayed in to warm themselves with a cup of tea or coffee before they started on their day's work. I soon found that the mysteriou robbery at The Gables was the general ask if any one has left the house, even for

"But it's quite incomprehensible!" said one man. "The jewels was safe and sound in the old baronet's bed room a week before ie died, for Rachel Marks saw them with her own eyes! And no one entered the room her own eyes! And no one entered the room till after, and then only the undertakers!"

"Ah! them undertakers!" exclaimed another man. "I wouldn't trust them any further than I could see 'em! Why! I remember when my mother died, and they member when my mother died, and they doesn't count, and the servants. Goldard, the butter has known me from a baby, further than I could see 'em! Why! I re-member when my mother died, and they was left in the room to lay her in her cof-fin, there wasn't a pin left in the cushion the next morning, and the very soap was

came to the same thing! And now, you a this is what they calls a Nemesis! They ost them again! Lor'! it won't be for long! iost them again! Lor! It won't be for long! Sir Charles, he have telegraphed for a detective from London, and all the servants are forbid to leave the house till he comes! He'll find 'em, never fear! They can't have walked off by themselves, nor they can't be very far, neither! All I know is, that I wouldn't like to be the man as has got 'em. The officer he'll sn'f' 'em out goon concept.' wouldn't like to be the man as has got 'em. The officer he'll sniff 'em out soon enought' "The man!" repeated his compunion, contemptuously. "Tain' no man as has those jewels. He'd better shake out my lady's skirts, instead. That's where the jewels is gone. She was always mad to get 'em, and mad against the young baronet, and she has 'em, you may take my word for it! Ah! there's no artfulness to beat the artfulness of a woman!" sighed, rather than said, the other man, as though he had cause to know it. cause to know it.

PART II.

I listened to their talk, but of course, I said nothing. So that was the way the land lay, I thought to myself! It was true that Little dependence was to be placed on these bucolic opinions, yet a long experience had taught me that there was seldom smoke without fire. I tried to maintain an unprejudiced mind, but it is difficult to extinguish a train of thought, once lighted, and I found myself thinking there might be a good deal of sense in the laborer's surmise.

As soon as my breakfast was concluded and I could leave the hotel without creating suspicion as to my errand I made my way quietly to The Gables, and, sending in my card, inquired for Sir Charles Ellesmere. The old butier who answered the door to me glanced at the card and then at me, and said, quietly:
"I'm glad you've come, sir! There's been

"So I understand. What is your name?"
"Goddard, sir, and I've been man and boy in The Gables ever since the late master came home from the East Indies, now forty years ago!"

"Ah! Then I dare say you'll be a valuable adjunct in this matter. I shall have a talk with you, Goddard, by and by. At present my first business is with your master."

"Of course, sir! This way, if you please!"
And the butler preceded me into a handsome library, well furnished with book shelves. In another minute the door reopened and

Sir Charles Ellesmere, dressed in deep mourning, stood before me. He was a singularly handsome young man, though looking pale and careworn. He motioned me to a seat and took one himself. "You wired to Scotland Yard for me yesterday, I understand, Sir Charles?" I com-

"I did. There has been a most serious robbery committed on these premises, and I suppose, Mr. Busby," he said, looking at my card, which he held in his hand, "that I must tell you everything I know concerning it?"

ing it? "It would be better, Sir Charles," I re-"Perhaps you will begin by describplied. ing the jewels you have lost."
"I know very little about jewelry," he said, "but they were magnificent, and my late father has often told me that they were valued at from twenty-five to thirty thousand pounds."
"They must have been unique to have

cost that sum," I remarked.
"He did not buy them; they were a gift to him for services received. Before he came into the title he was an officer in the East India company's service and saved the life of the rajah of Tanibore, whose king-dom was in a state of mutiny, in order to quell which the company had volunteered the assistance of one of their regiments, in which my father held the rank of lieuwhich my father held the rank of lieutenant. In return for this service the rajah, who was deeply grateful, presented him with the ornament from his turban, which comprised some of the state jewels, and begged that it should be handed down in his family as an heirioom. Shortly afterwards my father came into his title and proposery, he returned to England and set

wards my father came into his title and property—he returned to England and settled down here—he married, and I am the sole issue of his marriage."

"You considered, then, Sir Charles, that the rajah's heirloom would naturally descend to you and your children after you?"

"I have been told so, times out of mind! When I was a mere infant and my father was proud of me, he used to produce these jewels for mo to play with and tell me they were my own. I never dreamt, for a mowere my own. I never dreamt, for a mo-ment, that it would be otherwise, until-

matter, Sir Charles, you must please to be quite candid with me. You must not from false delicacy keep back anything!"
"Well, then, I will say that, until my father married again, I never thought it pos-

sible that he would disregard the rajah's wish concerning them!" "The late baronet married a second time, then? The present Lady Ellesmere is not your mother!'

"Oh, dear ro! My mother died when I was about sixteen."
"And your age, Sir Charles?"
"Twenty-five on my last birthday!"
"This lady whom your late father married, is she young?"
"Very young, in comparison with himabout thirty, I should think!" "And-pardon the question-may I ask if

you are, and always have been, on good terms with this lady, Sir Charles?" The young man looked distressed. Before he answered me he glanced up into my face "Is this quite necessary?

"Quite necessary, Sir Charles!"
"Then, if I must speak, Mr. Busby, my stepmother has always been my bitterest enemy with my late father! From the day she entered this house as Lady Ellesmere fer aim has been to keep me out of it. When my own mother died and my father married ager I felt bound to adopt some profession and took up that of medicine. It is a wild profession, at least amongst its young-er votaries, as doubtless you know, and I was as wild as my companions, I dare say, but not worse. But I used to think that there must be some spy set upon my actions-every little frolic was repeated to my father with such exaggerations that he be came at constant variance with me, and i was a penalty to go home instead of a pleas I felt lonely and as if I had no home, and this feeling perhaps, as much as any other, induced me to marry, rather imprudently as it seemed at the time, a young lady to whom I had become much attached."
"You are a married man, then, Sir Charles?" I said.

row! "And your lady is in the house?"
"She is. I sent for her as soon as my father's will was made known to me!"
"Will you kindly proceed and let me know under what circumstances the rajah's

"Yes. I have been married six months

hetricom was missed?"
"It was like this, Mr. Busby. A week before my father died he sent for me and ac-cused me of having married Miss Lascelles his consent or knowledge. I retaliated by saying that he had shown no interest in my saying that he had shown no interest in my proceedings lately, and therefore I did not consider that I owed him any confidence. I also demanded who it was who had informed him of the fact. He refused to tell me, but fell into a terrible passion, declaring that he had cut me out of his will and left me dependent on the bounty of my stepmother. I was deeply mortified, but too proud to remonstrate with him. We parted in anger, and a week after they wrote to tell me he was dead, and that I was expected tell me he was dead, and that I was expected to attend the funeral. I came down here in consequence, quite believing that my father's threats to me had been carried out Judge of my surprise then, when the wil was read after the funeral, to find that they had been made merely to frighten me-tha I inherited all the property with the exception of a settlement made upon his wife at the time of their marriage, including the amous jewels, which were expressly men tioned as a ferally heirloom. But when the solicitor came to look for the fewels in the strong box in which they had always been kept in my father's bed room, they had vanished—there was not a trace of them left Upon which, by his advice, I wired at once to Scotland Yard for assistance, and forbid any of the servants leaving The Gables till you had arrived."
"You did wisely, Sir Charles, but may I

a walk, since the will was read?" "No one, that I am aware of. The lades have kept closely to their own rooms. The funeral took place only the day before yes-terday."
"And how many inmates does the house

was left in the room to the first the next morning, and the very soap was took out of the soapdish, for I've hearl my sister say so a score of times."

"Them jewels was worth a power of money," interposed a third. "The old gentleman got them from the king of the Ingles, and they was valued at a million gies, and they was valued at a million at old series of large brilliants—those again by comeraids and tubics—then brilliants, I can hardly describe the effect of them to you. They blazed like fire, and I have told you their estimated value."
"Too valuable and remarkable for any

common person to meldle with," I ob-served. "If they have been stolen, it has been done by practiced professional thieves, "Or-whom?" demanded Sir Charles, "You

els, do you?"
"Not exactly, Sir Charles. But I suppose you know it will be necessary for me to examine everybody who may be in the house, separately, and to make a thorough search and investigation of all the property contained in it?"

don't imagine I would steal my own jew-

"I suppose so. With whom will you begin?"
"Well, the next person of importance after yourself would seem to be the Dow-ager Lady Ellesmere. Would it be conveager Lady Entermere. Would it be convenient for me to interview her before I proceed to the others?" "Certainly. I believe she is expecting you with some anxiety. Will you accompany me to her boudoir?"

I rose and followed him from the room. He did not appear to entertain any suspicion of his stepmother with regard to the robbery, but to my practiced eye it seemel



Returning to Stooped and Whispered.

as clear as daylight. However, one of our first rules is never to be prejudiced by the story of one witness, but to keep our heads clear until we have heard all there is to

boudoir, and simply saying: "This is Mr. Busby, from Scotland Yard, Lady Ellesmere," left me alone with his stepmother. Heavens! what a beautiful woman she was! As she rose to receive me, I thought I had never seen anything so handsome out of a picture. Her appearance made quite a revulsion in my feelings regarding her. Her voice, too, when she spoke, was as soft and

musical as a flute.

"You are the detective for whom Sir Charles has telegraphed?" sh; commenced by saying. "Yes, my lady, I am," I replied, and then she waved her hand toward a chair in the

most graceful manner, and said: "Pray, sit down." Upon which I did as she desired down." Upon which I did as she desired me, and she resumed her own seat.
"This is a most unfortunate affair, Mr. Busby," she commenced, and I replied:
"Without doubt, my lady, it is."
"To happen at such a moment, too, when we were all so distressed about the poor dear baronet's death, makes it doubly announce."

noying!" "But, as your ladyship must perceive, such an impudent robbery could only take place at a time of distress and confusion.

The thieves have counted on that, to allow them to make off with their booty." "But I trust you will stop them," she said, with a faint smile.
"I hope so; but in order to do it I must ask you to afford me all the help in your power, Lady Ellesmere, by telling me everything you can about the theft and the circumstances in which it must have been carried out."

was a more infant and my father was proud of me, he used to produce these lewels for mo to play with and tell me they sere my own. I never dreamt, for a moment, that it would be otherwise, until—intil—" carried out."

"Of course, I quite understand that; but there seems very little to tell. When the so-licitor, Mr. Cator, unlocked the safe after my late husband's will was read, in order to deliver over the jewels into the keeping of Sir Charles, they were gone—not a ves-

tige of them anywhere. That is all that anybody knows about it."

"But I want to know what took place before your hisband's death, in order that I may judge if the robbery were planned or unpremeditated. Will you kindly tell me to the property was the present become the present become the present become the present because the present become the present become the present become the present become the present because the present become the present become the present become the present because the pres

on what terms the present baronet was with his father?"

She looked startled, and said, much as Sir Charles himself had done:

"Is that recessary? Am I to disclose family scould be said. family secrets to a stranger?"

family secrets to a stranger?"

"If the stranger is to help unravel the mystery, my lady—yes. Sir Charles has teld me as much as he thought would help me in the matter."

At that her cyes gleamed with a less subdued light, and I guessed she had another side of her character than the one she had hitherto distillated to me.

for men, and both have been well attended. The band of the Faulists in charge are as follows: Revs. M. P. Smith, E. H. Youman and Peter J. O'Callaghan.

Mr. Themas C. Pole, director of the vested the church of the Church of the Incarnation, Protestant Episcopal, has resigned, and the bitherto displayed to me. "Oh, if that is the case, I need have no

hesitation," she replied.
"Well, then, he behaved shamefully to his oor father, Mr. Busby, and I-I conclude I | Church has elected the following officers: speak in confidence to you—"
"Most certainly, my lady! You can say

octor or a priest." She rose, and, going to the door, locked it; then, returning to my side, she stooped and was the cause of his father's death!" PART III.

little insane-or excited by drink, but on second thoughts I dismissed both ideas-Lady Ellesmere meant what she sold, whether she believed it or not. "I will tell you the facts, Mr. Busby, and

I stared at her-wondering if she were

you can make of them what you like! The present baronet and his father have always been on bad terms with each other. He was furious with Sir Henry for marrying me-furious with us both for loving each other-his dissipations nearly broke his father's heart-and his extravagances sorely tried his purse-still, Sir Henry never spoke of cutting him out of his will, until the news reached him, through a mutual acquaintance, that his son had been married for the last six months, without giving us the slightest intimation of the fact. Sir Henry was then as well as you or I—hale, hearty man of sixty, without an ailment of any sort. He wrote for his son to come down and see him, which he did, not knowing that his father had heard his secret, and a targitle seems onward. Sir Henry and a terrible scene ensued. Sir Henry raved, as I consider he had good right to io, and the young man cursed and swore, and it ended by his father disowning him, and saying that he had cut him out of his will and left him dependent upon himself. Sir Charles (as he is now) rushed from the house vowing vengeance—I and several of the servants heard him—and when we went in to Sir Henry, we found him laid back in his chair, speechless, and almost unconscious from the fearful excitement he had passed through. We got him up to his bed, which he never left again, dying within the And here the newly-made widow put her

ambric handkerchief to her eyes and dabbed them delicately.
"You wish me to understand—" I said, de-

"I wish neither you nor any one to adopt my opinicrs," she answered, sharply, "You asked me tell you everything, and I have done so. My poor husband tried, until he drew his last breath, to make us all under-stand that his son had killed him-though paralyzed and unable to speak, he pointed incessantly to the strong box in his room, where the jewels were kept, but I, having heard him say so often that he would rathr leave them to me (to whom he was most enderly attached) than to his son, who only squander them in dissipation, he merely wished to int!tate that they were to be my own. I thought he spoke the trifth when he told me that he had altered his will, and was site taken by surprise when I found that in the lecture room of the church by that I me.'

dea is-" I said, desirous of leadng her on, but I perceived that she was an acute woman, and quite capable of acute woman, and ping her own secrets.

on he didn't know that it was his proporties?" she answered. "He had just been told that it had been left away from him."

"But now—surely, there could be the county of the proporties." "But now-surely, there could be no fur-ther recessity for concealment?"

No one would care. I conclude, to confers himself to be a thief, even if no pun-ishment could follow! It was necessary to make a fuss about the loss-but whet is assumed or not, you may be a better judge than myself."

"No one, you say, saw the jewels after you had handled them on Tuesday?"
"No one in this house saw them after that," she answered, determinedly. "I locked them away in the strong box in Sir Henry's bed room with my own hands, and the key lay as it always did in a dame. the key lay, as it always did, in a drawer of his burcau. It was found there after his

"Pardon me-I suppose there were attendants passing in and out of the sick room?" "Certainly! But I am sure no servant in this house would dare to touch such a valuable 'hing-and before the baronet's own eyes! Bes!des, Julia Craley never left Sir Henry's side, day or night!",
"And may I ask who Julia Craley is?"

"Julia Craley," replied Lady Ellesmere, for him, and for his sen also, was more like that of a dog than a human being. To attack them or their property was like at-tacking her life. She would never have allowed a creature but myself to have touched anything that belonged to them."
"A rate fidelity, Lady Ellesmere," I re-

ant. "She can neither hear you nor speak to rou. She is a deaf mute and almost happened for the organization are expected to take

"Truly unfortunate." I murmured. "Still. I should like to see her, even if we cannot converse together. It is part of my business to leave no stone unturned.' "I believe she is out at present," replied Lady Ellesmere; "indeed, I am sure she is, a burnt cork affair by Messrs. G. S. Meloy Lady Ellesmere; "indeed, I am sure sne is, for I saw her go down the garden path a few minutes ago. But she will soon be the will soon be the in not strong enough for long mesmerism, conducted by Mr. Thad. K. back. She is not strong enough for long mesme walks. Is there no one else you could speak Sailor. to in the interval, Mr. Busby?" "Certainly there is, Lady Ellesmere. Sir Charles' wife, I mean," I added, seeing the

cloud that rese to the lady's brow at the mention of the name. "But she only arrived here yesterday," she said, with her hand upon the bell.
"Nevertheless, I must see her!" I replied, and she rang the bell sharply, and told the convent to conduct the terminal to the property. and she rang the bell sharply, and told the servant to comduct me to the presence of Sir Charles' wife. He ushered me into another morning room, where a pretty, grace-ful young lady of about eighteen or nineteen received me with a certain amount of trepidation, which I hastened to allay.

"Pray do not be nervous, Lady Elles-mere," I said, "I only want to put two or three questions to you respecting these lost jewe's. If understand that you only arrived here yesterday. I presume therefore that you have not seen them?" "Oh! no! never!" she replied, in a girlish,

diffident way!"
"Has Sir Charles ever spoken of them to "Yes! often. He used to tell me how beautiful they were, and of the manner in which they had come into the possession of his father from the rajah of Tanibore, and that they were to be his when Sir Henry

"I suppose he had never the least doubt of that?"
"Oh! never! He has drawn them for me so
"Oh! never! He has drawn them for me so that I might have some idea of their shape and size, and he has often told me, long before we were married how he intended to maye them set in order that his future wife might wear them."
"Had you heard anything of these un-happy quarrels with his father, Lady Elles-mere?" have them set in order that his future wife

"Sometimes my husband spoke of them, but not often. The thought of them made him too unhappy. He was very fond of his father—and so was his father of him, until the—the—other Lady Ellesmere came between them!" "But it has been all hearsay with you."
"Yes; all hearsay!"
At this juncture the door of the room opened, and Sir Charles' voice was heard

ccaxing some one to enter.

"Come along, Julia!" he said; "come along and see Gertrude! Come with (To be concluded on February 22.)

St. Augustine's Church last Sunday week, under the direction of the Paulist Fathers will close with a high mass. Last week the mission was for women, but this week for men, and both have been well attend-

organist of the church, Mr. Watts, has been appointed to the vacancy.

The Sunday school of Union M. E. E. S. Wescott, superintendent for the eighth what you choose, as safely as if I were a year; Anson S. Taylor, secretary; F. C. Linger, assistant superintendent; A. M. Gangewer, treasurer; M. Fernandez, librarian; John Meany, assistant librarian; Dr. C. J. Ladson, chorister; Miss Elsie Roach, "My own private belief is that Sir Charles organist, and Miss Grace Cobaugh, assistant organist. Mr. Taylor is now entering upon his twenty-sixth year in the service of Zion Church as the secretary of its Sab-bath school, and consequently a committee has been appointed to secure and present to him some suitable token.

It is thought that Cardinal Gibbons will appoint Rev. Father Martin P. Sullivan, assistant paster of St. Peter's Church, to the place made vacant by the resignation of Rev. T. B. Hughes of St. Teresa's Church, who has accepted the position of professor at St. John's Seminary, Bos on. Father Hughes has been in his present charge thirteen years.

The Methodist Ministers' Association Monday held a meeting, at which they discussed the Bacon resolutions. Rev. Dr. Martin F. B. Rice opened the discussion. Others who took part in the debate were Rev. George B. Leech of Baltimore and Rev. Drs. J. B. Stitt and A. H. Ames. Judging from the opinions expressed at this meeting, the Washington district, represented by its pasters, will be recorded at the coming conference as being heartly it favor of the resolutions. An indication of the interest taken in the questions of church polity embedded in these resolutions is found in the fact that beginning with last Monday every session of the association will be devoted to debates on the same question. At this week's meeting it was voted that laymen be not accorded the privilege of being present. There was a meeting this week of pastors and laymen of the local Lutherar churches in affiliation with the general

synod to take action looking toward ex-tending some help from Washington to the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. The seminary recently completed additions and improvements to its plant costing upward of eighty thousand dollars, and they propose to liquidate a greater portion of this debt by contributions from the churches. It was resolved that the total churches be canvassed for several thousand dollars, if possible, and for this purpose a committee to look after the mat-ter was appointed, as follows: Albert F. Fox, Dr. F. Butler and Allen D. Albert. The congregation of Mt. Sinal Baptist Church, on 11th street northeast between F and G streets, has gone into its new edifice. The upper floor, however, is the only part occupied regularly, as the ground floor is not yet fully completed. Last Sunday Wesley M. E. Church held its annual missionary anniversary. The presiding elder, Dr. Wilson, preached a termon in the morning, and in the after-neon and evening Mrs. L. B. Baldwin, now

of New York, but formerly a missionary to China, addressed the congresation. The touch anniversary of the Sunday School Missionary Society of Douglass M. E. Church was held last Sunday evening nothing was to be mine, except my mar-riage settlement. But the jewels were gone amount of missionary money was made to Harley Hoan, Misses Laura F. Shipe and Harley Horn, Misses Laura F. Shipe and Ella Lumb, and Mr. B. F. Fuller. Officers were elected as follows: President, Mrs. E. J. Harper; vice president, Miss Ida Gilbert; Recping Lef Gwn secrets.

"I have no ideas, Mr. Busby, as I have already told you," she replied, quickly, "All I know for certain is that on the Thresday I saw and handled the reich's heirloomthe housefuld, Rachel Marks, was with me the housefuld, Rachel Marks, was with me the housefulder of the confirm my statement.

"I have no ideas, Mr. Busby, as I have secretary, M'ss Anna R. Nevius, and treasurer, Miss May R. Branson, The Sunday Urer, Miss May R. Branson, The Sunday I know for certain is that on the Thresday of the following results: President, B. H. Burrell, and secretary and treasurer. E. M. Wheat, The officers of the school itself for the following year are the housefulds. Rachel Marks, was with me at the time, ind can confirm my statement—that on the Wednesday, the present Laronet had this stormy interview with his father, from the effects of which my hundred never recovered—that a week after he was dead, and the jewels were already was dead, and the jewels were already. Frank De Groot; assistant secretary, Aven Nevius; treasurer, W. W. Biggs; librarian, Nevius; treasurer, W. W. Biggs; librarian, rone. When they went and who took them it is for you to find out!"

"But—if I understand your insignation arielyt—the thief only took his own prop-

genist, Miss Emma Miller. Rev. Frank Sewall, paster of the New

The committee appointed by the Young Men's Christian Societies of Mt. Vernon and Marvin Churches to draw up a coestitution for the proposed Methodist Brotherhood has finished its labors and submitted the results to the societies for ratification. By the constitution, as reported the organization will be known as the "Southern Meth-ed at Brotherhood," and it will be governed by a council composed of member; of the several chapters. Temporary efficers are seen to be selected, and next August the first annual meeting of the brotherhood is to be held. The committee who have had there of the matter are as follows; W. W. Millan, chairman; R. E. L. Smith and J. Evert Baird of Mt. Vernon; Robert S. Wahley, D. L. Blakemore and Emory S. Tucker of Marvin, together with the pasters of the churches in an advisory capaci-ty. Since the project was first broached, two more sociaties have been organized in the Southern Methodist Church, and the brotherhood will start out with a member-

ship of about two hundred.

There will occur in the middle of May of this year the quadrennial conference of the Methodist Protestant Church of the United "Julia Craisey," replied Lady Ellesmere,
"is a protege of the late baronet—the
daughter of a distant cousin of his, who
was left a penniless orphan and thrown on
his bounty for protection and support. She
was deeply attached to Sr Henry—her love
for him and for his son also, was more terial and a lay delegate for every 2,000

The Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Balt more M. E. conference has set apart Thursday as a day of humiliation and prayer. It will be observed in this city by "A rate fidelity, Lady Ellesmere," I replied. "Might I ask to see this lady?"

"It would be of no use," said my informant. "She can neither hear you not small."

Thursday evening at Trinity P. E. Church Hall, St. Mark's Friendly League gave an entertainment for the benefit of their treasury. The first portion of the program con-sisted of selections by eight of the Peek sis-ters, and one lone brother. Then followed

Ryland M. E. Sunday School Missionary Society has elected officers, as follows: President, Mrs. Annie V. Cawson; secretary, Worth Harper; John W. Mitchell, treasurer. The last Sunday of the month the annual anniversary of the school will be held. There is to be a meeting of Baptist young people of the city on the evening of February 28, at Grace Baptist Church. Dr. A. P. Montague of Columbian University is to

deliver the address on the topic of the even-ing, "Baptists in Education." This is to be followed by an open parliament.
On the same Friday evening the Baptist Social Union is to give a banquet at the E Street Church. The president of the union is S. W. Woodward, and the secretary D. S.

sociation listened to an address Monday morning from Rev. E. C. Makosky, on "Render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's. Last Friday evening the Christian En-deavor Society of the Church of the Reformation gave a concert in aid of their '96 fund.

The Methodist Protestant Ministers' As-

M. Fernandez has been elected president and Miss Maggle Brook treasurer of the Union M. E. Sabbath School Missionary So

Monday evening the King's Daughters of the Sixth Presbyterian Church gave a "hard times" social. Fancy prices were charged for all those parts of the costume of any person who attended which in any way savored of a luxury. Wednesday evening of the week before occurred the monthly so-cially of the church. This was in the form of a millinery affair, ten ladies bringing a bonnet each and ten gentlemen being set to work to trim them for a prize for the most tasteful headgear.

It has been decided to hold the semi-annual meeting of the Columbian Baptist Association from April 21 to 23. A committee

consisting of men has been appointed to look after the necessary arrangements, composed of Rev. A. F. Anderson, chairman; Rev. George Bowman, and Messrs. D. C. Fountain, Pierson H. Bristow and F. A. Roderick.
Yesterday evening the Ladies' Aid Society of the Church of the Reformation held a reception in the lecture room. At the conclusion of the evening's entertainment a hundred barrels and pyramids were opened, Roderick.

raised and contributed over a thousand lars for the same purpose.

At the fourth quarterly conference of Fletcher M. E. Church, held Wednesday evening, the following appointments were made for the ensuing year: Trustees—with your whether your whether your fortably dependent on their fit. Yost, Wm. Lawson and Mr. Collison, stewards—J. W. Allen, recording steward; C. C. H. Moxly, M. E. Fowler, W. M. Chase, John F. Lacy, D. Buchanan, Mrs. M. C. Moore, Mrs. A. V. Allen and Mrs. E. Allpress. The choice of Mr. D. Buchanan as Sun

day school superintendent was confirmed. Mrs. A. V. Allen was approved for president of the Epworth League. A unanimous vote was taken, inviting the pastor, Rev. Charles O. Cook, to return to the church for another term, and also asking that Presiding Elder Luther B. Wilson by retained in the church for another term, and also

son be retained in his present position.

Emery Chapel M. E. Church has selected the following officers: A. G. Osborn, B. C. King, John G. Keene, Theodore H. Thomas and D. A. Whitmar as stewards; president board stewards, John G. Keene; secretary board stewards, B. C. Keene; treasurer board stewards, A. G. Osborn; district steward, John G. Keene, and alternate, Theology H. Theology Theodore H. Thomas.

A mass meeting of the local chapters of the Epworth League was held at Waugh M. E. Church last evening, and although

two of the announced speakers were sick and unable to be present, the disappoint-ment did not destroy the enthusiasm of the big audience. First Vice President Rev. T. J. Clark conducted the exercises, and Fourth Vice President William J. Palmer acted as musical director. A service of song preceded the regular program. Rev. Charles L. Pate of

the North Capitol M. E. Church conducted the devotional exercises, and solos were sung by Miss Gertrude Dana and William J. Palmer.
Presiding Elder Luther B. Wilson made a short address, and testimonies from the floor were received in rapid succession. A resolution was offered indorsing Senator McMillan's bill for the observance of Sun-

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